

Zobennan. His article centers around a trip he recently made to Israel.

Rabbi Zoberman is spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach. Born in Chu, Kazakhstan, in 1945, and raised in Haifa, Israel, he lived in Israel of 1949 to 1966.

In the midst of renewed cautious hope to overcome the deadly impasse between Palestinians and Israelis through implementation of the Roadmap, I had the opportunity to witness the resumption of the very lively Israeli way of life during this cease-fire (Hudna in Arabic) period accepted by the Palestinian terror organizations.

The solidarity mission sponsored by my Reform movement whose hallmark is prophetic values, focused on social justice issues in the Jewish state. We were exposed to inspiring efforts to make a difference on the internal front in spite of on-going security concerns. For that will ultimately determine the very quality of Israeli society and the meaning of a challenged yet enduring Zionist enterprise. Surely a nation's strength is a function of its social climate and democratic vitality even more so than its undergirding and reflective military might. But only peace allows for the essential societal flourishing which budded prior to the onset of the Second Intifada and the latter's back setting impact when Chairman Arafat chose the path of destruction over that of dialogue.

A major concern remains the welfare and integration of the 1,200,000 Israeli Arabs who live along five million Jews. While the Arab population in Israel proper has made progress, it still lags behind the Jewish majority socially, economically and educationally. The wide gap is bound to create understandable resentment and dangerous alienation with Israeli Arabs already undergoing troubling Palestinization and Muslim radicalization leading to terrorist acts which work against them, playing into the hands of those who claim they cannot be trusted. The state of war with Israel's Arab and Palestinian antagonists has exacerbated matters, though neglect will only fester a wound whose healing is essential for Israel's long-term well-being. Our group was addressed by volunteer Jewish members of "Sikkuy" (meaning a chance) which includes Arab counterparts and offers training to empower Arab municipalities as well as encourage their women to become leaders. We toured the Lower Galilee mountain range, discussing the disadvantaged Arab community in receiving state allocations, the attempt to improve the weak demographic Jewish presence, and the urgent need to improve communication between the two groups.

At the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon we visited the pediatric intensive care unit and saw children kept alive by the unique Israeli project Save A Child's Heart (SACH). It was founded in 1995 by the late American born legendary cardio-thoracic surgeon, Dr. Ami Cohen. A nurse on the hospital team was trained at our own King's Daughters in Norfolk. I was particularly moved by a Palestinian mother and her infant son from the Gaza Strip. The boy is among over 800 children from developing countries, a third from the Palestinian areas, who have benefited from the program which is supported by private funds, volunteer medical care and hostel service when necessary. There was no interruption of service to Palestinians when devastating suicide bombings took place in nearby Tel Aviv and Netanya, and space was needed for emergency treatment of victims. Imprisoned Palestinian leader Marwan Barghouti on terrorism charges had a family baby treated there. Also a free clinic offered services to over 3,000 Palestinians. To save a life, any life, is a supreme sacred Jewish act practiced lovingly by Israelis.

In Jerusalem near the Machene Yehuda marketplace and its lingering memory of a suicide bombing, a community center embraces a most diverse neighborhood of religious and secular Jews, Arabs, Palestinians, foreign workers, haves and have nots. They benefit from a joint educational program where the children of all are attended to. We also lent moral support to demonstrating single parents, mostly women, encamped in tents outside the Knesset (Parliament). They are upset over their subsidies cut following an Israeli version of the "Wisconsin Plan," as Israel is moving more and more from a welfare state to a capitalistic one, leaving the weaker classes behind, thus creating a potential social explosion also in the Jewish majority.

In Haifa, where I grew up, I stunningly paused to offer a memorial prayer at the site of last March's terrorist attack claiming seventeen lives, at the bus stop I use to visit my aging parents. Guards are still posted at the entrance to public places, checking bags and reassuring people. Tears welled up in me upon hearing the breaking news that six elderly Iraqi Jews were brought home to Israel in a special operation representing practically the last survivors of a 2000 year old great exiled Jewry. What a reminder of what a resilient Israel is all about with the complexities and contradictions of a violated yet valiant land!

REMEMBERING STATE SENATOR AND COOK COUNTY JUDGE ROBERT J. EGAN

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of a respected and exceptional public servant for the people of Chicago, the Honorable Robert J. Egan, who passed away on September 15, 2003.

Robert Egan was born in Elmhurst in 1931. In 1958, he married his lovely wife Marie. Together they had five wonderful children, Beth, Margie, Sarah, Robert Jr., and Frank and four grandchildren, Tony, Meggy, Kaitlyn and Sarah.

Judge Egan served as a first lieutenant from 1954–1956 in the U.S. Army infantry in Korea. He then worked his way through law school at Loyola University and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1959. He later joined the Illinois Attorney General's Office, where he served as Chief Legislative Counsel and Chief Attorney in its antitrust division.

In 1970, Judge Egan was elected to the Illinois State Senate. Although defeated in 1972, he was subsequently reelected in 1974. He served in the Senate until 1984.

During his first year in the State Senate, Judge Egan sponsored seven anticrime measures that were enacted into law. He also was a leader in the movement to strengthen sentences for serious and repeat offenders.

Judge was his last title, gained when he was appointed to the Cook County Circuit Court in 1987. He retired from the bench in 1988.

From 1990–1999, he served on the review board of the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the people of the northwest side of the City of Chicago in recognizing the life of Robert Egan, and wish to ex-

press my deep sense of sorrow to Marie and the rest of Robert's loving family.

TO CONGRATULATE AND HONOR FELIX AND SOLEDAD CORONA FOR THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate a couple who will soon celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and to honor their outstanding contributions to our community in Phoenix, Arizona.

Felix came to the United States as a migrant worker, toiling the fertile fields of California in the late 40's working for the Acosta Company. In 1950 he accepted a construction position refurbishing the Sacramento Fairgrounds. He worked very hard so that he could send money back home to his beloved family. Mexico was never far from his heart and he would visit when time allowed. On one of his trips back home in 1950 he met Soledad. He returned to California to continue to help support his brothers and sisters but his heart was in Autlan, Jalisco where he returned in 1952 to work and on September 29, 1953 Felix and Soledad were married in the company of friends and family. Felix worked for the Mexico Department of Geology and Minerals from 1952 to 1957. The young couple had their first son, Juan Manuel in 1956 followed by their first daughter Maria in 1957.

Felix and Soledad made the difficult decision of leaving loved ones and moving to the United States. They knew that their future and that of their children was in the North. They maintained a fierce loyalty to the family that they left behind and continued to help fund and educate their siblings while living in their new adopted home.

The Coronas first worked as laborers on the Dansie Farm in Northern California. They wanted to achieve the American dream for themselves and their children and in 1958 they developed a company that helped ranchers cultivate their crops.

During this time the young family grew to include six more children, all born in Marysville, California. They welcomed Armando in 1958, Teresa in 1959, Esperanza in 1961, Hector in 1962, Alex in 1964 and Beatrice in 1965.

In 1967, Felix started what has been a rich legacy of success, achievement and accomplishment when he formed a partnership with life long friends, Raul Ybarra, Albert Rodriguez and Francisco Mejia. They owned and operated Spanish Movie houses in Marysville, San Jose, San Bernardino and Orange County.

In 1970, Felix, Soledad and all eight children moved to Phoenix, Arizona to expand the business. They ran the Palace West Theater from 1970 to 1987. During that time, they saw the need for expanding the Hispanic family entertainment in Arizona and they met that need by opening the Cine Mexico in Chandler in 1979 and the Hayden West Plaza in 1980.

This was a busy time for the young and ambitious family, running a couple of restaurants such as the Courtroom Restaurant in downtown Phoenix as well as a record distribution

company, entertainment promotions, and gift shops.

During this time the Coronas started working on what was going to be their greatest accomplishment as both a family and as leaders in the Hispanic business community. In 1976 they started construction of the Lienzo Charro El Herradero in Laveen, Arizona. Little did they imagine that they were embarking on a project which one day would be known nationally and internationally as Corona Ranch. With Felix at the mast, few deals were made that were not successful. His dream of bringing true Mexican culture and entertainment to the masses has been accomplished during the last 25 years.

The Coronas have enjoyed an accomplished, successful and fulfilling life with their 8 children and 18 grandchildren by their side. And although semi-retired, this couple is not content to sit on their laurels. They have been active in community, cultural and religious organizations such as the Friendly House, Ala de La Gente, St. Anthony's Catholic Church and the Laveen Lions.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, Felix and Soledad have truly achieved the American dream and have contributed greatly to our community in Phoenix, Arizona. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on their 50th anniversary and for their contributions.

REMEMBERING ANNA LINDH

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the people of Sweden in mourning the loss of Foreign Minister Anna Lindh, a dedicated public servant who died last Thursday.

Her brutal murder has shaken the foundation of that proud and peaceful nation. To lose such a young and promising leader is an international tragedy that is difficult to comprehend.

In only 46 years of life, Anna Lindh rapidly ascended the European political community to become one of its most capable, competent, and respected members. She was a singularly instrumental figure during the Swedish presidency of the European Union in 2001.

From joining the Swedish Social Democratic League at age 12, Ms. Lindh was destined for a career in public service. She was elected to the Swedish parliament the year she graduated from law school. She later became the Deputy Mayor of Stockholm, Minister of the Environment, and eventually, Foreign Minister.

The impact of her political skill and achievements touched people worldwide, most notably in the Balkans, where her remarkable talents helped prevent war in Macedonia.

Building coalitions was her calling, and her success in this critically important area earned the respect of leaders from around the globe. When asked once what he appreciated most about Sweden, our own Secretary Colin Powell once replied "Abba, Volvo, and Anna."

Anna Lindh truly epitomized a new generation of internationally-minded politicians. Her murder was a tragedy that cannot be forgotten, but it must not overshadow her achievements and her lasting contributions to the international community.

Mr. Speaker, I join today with the people of Sweden and more than 12,000 of my constituents of Swedish descent in their grief as they remember and honor Anna Lindh's life. And I send my condolences to her husband and her two sons.

FOR A SAFER WORLD, ELIMINATE TORTURE

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concerns about reports that some US authorities may have used methods on prisoners captured in Afghanistan and Iraq that may be illegal under accepted definitions of torture. As a member of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I am especially concerned about the treatment of prisoners of war.

From its foundation, our country has been clear in its condemnation of torture and in proscription of its use, both at home and abroad. Our position on human rights has been affirmed repeatedly, in our ratification of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the Third Geneva Convention (1949), the UN Convention against Torture (ratified by the U.S. in 1994), and other international treaties.

These treaties have forbidden torture and inhumane and degrading punishment in all circumstances and for any purpose. This prohibition is binding on all countries and cannot be overruled by any other law or declaration. It also forbids the extradition of a person to another country "where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of being subjected to torture." This policy was adopted officially by Congress on October 21, 1998, and applies "regardless of whether the person is physically present in the United States."

Our policy with respect to torture inflicted by U.S. nationals, whether at home or abroad, is clear. I am concerned, however, of reports that our practice does not always match our principles. Accounts in the media have described "stress and duress" tactics used on terrorism suspects. One U.S. official who has supervised the capture and transfer of accused terrorists was quoted as saying, "If you don't violate someone's human rights some of the time, you probably aren't doing your job." More recently, on March 4, the New York Times described the death of two prisoners while under interrogation at Bagram air base north of Kabul and the mistreatment of others.

Some claim that these alleged actions are necessary for our national security, and therefore should not preoccupy us. However, once torture on a small scale is accepted, it corrupts those who inflict it, and it inevitably expands. For the nation as a whole, it undermines the legal and moral principles on which our society is founded. The U.S. repeatedly has criticized countries that have used inhumane techniques. If we use torture, our efforts against torture in other countries will carry little weight.

International human rights organizations have documented torture and ill treatment in more than 150 countries, including the United States. The torture is widespread in more than

seventy countries, and in eighty countries people have been tortured to death. The elimination of the use of torture is a prerequisite for the achievement of a more just and safe world.

The laws of the U.S. are unambiguous with respect to the use of torture, and we must adhere to that high standard. We must not lower that standard by asserting special circumstances and inventing new categories of detainees. It is my hope that our military forces, the most powerful in the world, set an example of the highest integrity.

TRIBUTE TO TODD MARTIN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to an extraordinary citizen from my district. Todd Martin of Silverton, Colorado showed remarkable bravery and dedication as a member of the Montezuma County Sheriff's Department. His courage and sacrifice show the spirit of a true hero, and I am honored to share his story here today.

On May 29, 1998, an All Points Bulletin (APB) went out that three armed suspects had stolen a water truck. Todd and his fellow law enforcement officers raced to respond to what would prove to be a dangerous situation, with one officer losing his life in an encounter with the armed men. Todd met the wanted men at an intersection, where the suspects opened fire. He bravely faced them, selflessly putting the well-being of his community before his own safety.

Todd sustained severe injuries from his fateful encounter. He received gunshot wounds to his elbow and knee, lost a significant amount of blood, and required five and a half hours of surgery. Todd's will was strong and he refused to give up. He pushed his way through months of therapy and, on January 11, 1999, Todd returned to active service and joined the Colorado State Patrol.

Mr. Speaker, Todd Martin's bravery and commitment to duty in the face of extreme personal danger is an inspiration. It is through the hard work of law enforcement officers like Todd that our communities stay safe and secure. I am honored to join with my colleagues today in paying tribute to one of Colorado's finest. Thank you, Todd, and keep up the good work.

TRIBUTE TO SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH IN KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Salem Baptist Church in Kansas City, Kansas, and to honor Rev. Charles Buford Bailey and his wife Geneva Stephens Bailey, who have guided the Salem Baptist Church since 1955.

After combat military service during World War II, Charles Bailey met and married Geneva Stephens. In 1948, Charles was called to